

# ZEROS OF LIPSCHITZ FUNCTIONS ANALYTIC IN THE UNIT DISC

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $D$  denote the open unit disc in the complex plane, and let  $\bar{D}$  denote its closure. Let  $\text{Lip } \alpha$  be the class of functions  $f$  analytic in  $D$  and satisfying a Lipschitz condition of order  $\alpha$ ,

$$(1.1) \quad |f(z) - f(z')| \leq C |z - z'|^\alpha.$$

L. Carleson [1] gave a necessary and sufficient condition for a closed set  $E \subset \partial D = \bar{D} \setminus D$  to be the zero set of a function  $f \in \text{Lip } \alpha$ . If  $\rho(z, E)$  denotes the Euclidean distance from  $z$  to  $E$ , then evidently (1.1) implies that

$$\log |f(z)| \leq \alpha \log \rho(z, E) + \log C,$$

and consequently

$$(1.2) \quad \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \log \rho(e^{i\theta}, E) d\theta > -\infty,$$

by a well-known theorem of F. Riesz. Conversely, Carleson showed that if (1.2) holds, then there exists an outer function  $f$  such that  $f(e^{i\theta}) = 0$  if and only if  $e^{i\theta} \in E$ , and that for each integer  $m > 0$  the function  $f$  can be constructed so that it belongs to the class  $A^m$  of functions that are analytic in  $D$  and whose first  $m$  derivatives are continuous in  $\bar{D}$ . W. P. Novinger [3] and we extended this result independently by showing that  $f$  can be constructed so that it belongs to the class

$A^\infty = \bigcap_{m=1}^{\infty} A^m$ . Also, a result has recently been proved by Carleson and S. Jacobs that implies the following: if  $f \in A = A^0$ , if  $f$  is an outer function, and if  $|f(e^{i\theta})|$  has  $2m$  continuous derivatives as a function of  $\theta$ , then  $f \in A^m$ . This theorem yields an easy proof of the extension of Carleson's theorem discussed above.

In this paper, we solve the analogous problem for zero sets in  $\bar{D}$ . In the following,  $Z$  denotes a closed subset of  $\bar{D}$  such that  $Z \cap D$  is countable. To each element of  $Z \cap D$  we assign a multiplicity, and we let  $\{z_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$  be an enumeration of  $Z \cap D$  with each element of  $Z \cap D$  appearing in the sequence a number of times equal to its multiplicity. Also,  $\rho(z)$  ( $z \in \bar{D}$ ) denotes the Euclidean distance from  $z$  to  $Z$ .

**THEOREM.** *In order that for some  $\alpha$  ( $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ ) there exist a function  $f \in \text{Lip } \alpha$  whose zero set is  $Z$  (counting multiplicities), it is necessary that*

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